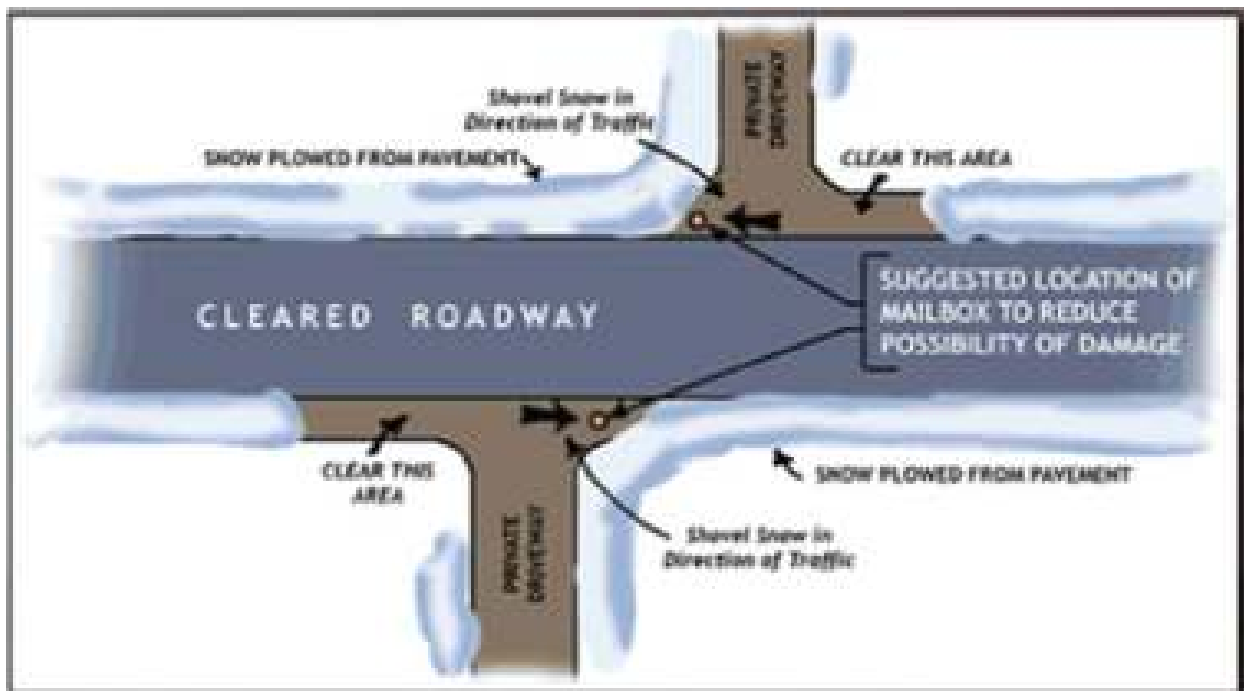


The Southborough Public Works Department offers these tips to help reduce the risk of mailbox damage:

- Place a 6- to 8-inch piece of reflective tape on the mailbox to help snowfighters see it at night.
- Remove snow from around your mailbox, but avoid throwing the snow back onto the roadway. This video shows how to minimize snow being thrown onto your mailbox and driveway: <https://youtu.be/8Bm7mJxJOSU>
- Inspect your mailbox. Make sure it is firmly supported in the ground and check for deteriorated wooden posts and rusted metal posts. Also, make sure your mailbox is securely mounted to the post. Check the mounts for rust and wear as well.
- If possible, avoid plastic mailboxes. Some plastic mailboxes have a tendency to shatter in cold weather.
- If your mailbox continues to get knocked down, you may want to consider changing the location of the mailbox. Sometimes moving the mailbox a few feet in either direction can help.



The Southborough DPW is not able to repair damaged mailboxes. Homeowners who have followed these tips in the past and have still experienced mailbox damage should consider installing protective mailbox snow guard shields (as shown in the attached photos) for your mailbox or install a swinging mailbox support that will swing the mailbox out of harm's way.

**EXAMPLES OF MAILBOX PROTECTIVE SNOW GUARD SHIELDS**

